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Subject:

Fwd: FW: [Aclb-trusteetalk] Libraries in the Connecticut state budget

To Whom It May Concern,

With all due respect, I think it's pitiful and disgusting that this is even being considered. Libraries are so important to our community and society as a whole. I have so many memories going to the library growing up and participating in their programs. I read a lot growing up because of all the encouragement and support the New Britain Public Library programs and staff provided.

I'm not the only one who thinks libraries are crucial. Check out Neil Gaiman: Why our future depends on libraries, reading and daydreaming, and Community Centered: 23 Reasons Why Your Library Is the Most Important Place in Town.

Cutting this funding hurts the people who need their library the most — CT residents who live in our urban areas where our public libraries struggle to provide basic library programs and services such as literacy (reading, financial and digital), access to government services and so much more.

Please, please, please don't cut funding to our libraries. We need them.

KeriLynn Engel, freelance writer
www.KeriLynnEngel.com

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stella Heyl** <SVBH@yahoo.com>

Date: Fri, Mar 20, 2015 at 2:42 PM

Subject: FW: [Aclb-trusteetalk] Libraries in the Connecticut state budget

To: Cheryl Croll at home <CLC192C@aol.com>, Debra MacAuliffe Johnson <debramcauliffe29@att.net>, Donna Stimpson <Feministangler@aol.com>, Irene Testani <ttesn11@comcast.net>, Jan Brzozowy <yanbroz@heylsystems.com>, kathleen riccio <kathleen_riccio@yahoo.com>, Keri Lynn Engel <kle321@gmail.com>, Sally <sgarcia10212010@gmail.com>, Sue Vannilith <jade_briefs@yahoo.com>

FYI

Please help support Connecticut libraries.

Thank you.

Stella

From: Brenda Bemben [mailto:bjbemben@aol.com]

Sent: Friday, March 20, 2015 10:33 AM

To: carlsonsandra@att.net; annina05@comcast.net; doyle_james_e@sbcglobal.net; jvarkal@yahoo.com; kriceberg@snet.net; swwhicher@att.net; svbh@yahoo.com; sfh23@juno.com; ashwinee.sadanand@gmail.com; BCANZO@comcast.net; discotto2@comcast.net

Subject: Fwd: [Aclb-trusteetalk] Libraries in the Connecticut state budget

please join me in supporting Connecticut libraries

-----Original Message-----

From: The McIlvaines via Aclb-trusteetalk <aclb-trusteetalk@mylist.net>

To: Aclb-trusteetalk <Aclb-trusteetalk@mylist.net>

Sent: Fri, Mar 20, 2015 10:22 am

Subject: [Aclb-trusteetalk] Libraries in the Connecticut state budget

Colleagues,

As you know, the Governor's budget proposes to eliminate funding for Connecticard, CLC and Grants to Public Libraries. Legislation has also been introduced that would also repeal the statutes that authorize these programs. We need your help. Please use these talking points in letters to you legislators. If you were unable to attend the public hearing, you can also still submit written testimony about how you feel about the proposed budget cuts. Please email written testimony in Word or PDF format to APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov<<mailto:APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov>>.

Go Libraries!!!! – Thanks The CLA Legislative Committee

Connecticut's public libraries are Dead on Arrival in this year's proposed state budget

The proposed budget not only zeroes out funding but eliminates the enabling statutes that allow needed library programs and services to exist

- The Legislature should restore \$2M in funding to Connecticard, Cooperating Library Service Units (CLC) and Grants to Public Libraries
 - Restore \$1.25M (up from \$950,000 in past budget) to Connecticard
 - Restore \$500,000 (up from \$332,00 in past budget) to Cooperating Library Service Units (CLC)
 - Restore \$250,000 (up from \$193,391 in past budget) to Grants to Public Libraries
- \$2M in library funding will save CT's libraries and taxpayers over \$75M annually
 - For every state tax dollar invested, CT's libraries and taxpayers will receive a \$37.50 public service return on investment (375%)
- Without these restorations, the CT's libraries will go from coordination to chaos

Cutting Connecticard means

• CT residents will no longer be able to borrow from any public library across the state and local libraries will be forced to shut their doors to their neighbors

• The savings CT residents realized through Connecticard (\$68M in 2014 by borrowing 4.5 million items from libraries across the state) will vanish

Slashing Cooperating Library Service Units (CLC) means

The Connecticut Library Consortium (CLC), formed by the merger of four CLSUs saving CT taxpayers through coordinated services and efficiencies, will be crippled.

Without state funding, CLC will severely hampered in its mission of saving public libraries and taxpayers over \$7.1M annually by coordinating the purchase of books and other products for the state's public, school and academic libraries.

Eliminating Grants to Public Libraries means

Cutting this funding hurts the people who need their library the most—CT residents who live in our urban areas where our public libraries struggle to provide basic library programs and services such as literacy (reading, financial and digital), access to government services and so much more.

Eliminating the law that guarantees adequate local funding will throw our local public libraries into chaos not knowing if funding will be available, severely restricting access to information and quite probably leading to public libraries shutting their doors for good.

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